



# Good Deeds for 9/11 Day

## 11 Ideas for Supporting Those Facing Homelessness

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### 1. Assemble Hygiene Kits for Shelters

Collect essentials like soap, toothpaste, socks, and snacks for hygiene kits. Donate them to local shelters, veteran's shelters (find one via the [National Coalition for Homeless Veterans](#)), or street outreach programs.

### 2. Sponsor Meals or Organize Food Drives

Partner with [Family-to-Family](#) to sponsor meals for those in need, or host a community drive to collect nonperishable food items for local pantries and shelters.

### 3. Support Mobile Services

Donate supplies or volunteer with organizations providing mobile showers or laundry services, ensuring people experiencing homelessness have access to essential hygiene resources.

### 4. Hand Out Bottled Water on Hot Days

On warm days, distribute bottled water to people experiencing homelessness to help them stay hydrated.

### 5. Create and Share Shelter Information

Compile a list of local shelters, food pantries, and services. Print cards with this information to distribute or share with community members who might meet someone in need.

### 6. Donate Gently Used Clothing

Gather clean, gently used clothing, warm coats, socks, shoes, and backpacks, and donate them to a local shelter or transitional housing program.

### 7. Volunteer with Housing and Shelter Projects

Volunteer with your [local public housing authority](#) or [Habitat for Humanity](#) to help build, repair, or maintain housing for people experiencing homelessness.

### 8. Use People-First Language

Be mindful of your language—choose respectful words like “people experiencing homelessness” instead of “the homeless.” [Listen to this short audio story](#) from Press Play with Madeleine Brand for tips.

### 9. Support Job Readiness Programs

Partner with local job training or employment assistance organizations, such as [Dress for Success](#), [Goodwill Industries International](#) and [United Way](#) to support people experiencing homelessness as they seek stable work. Donate interview attire, offer résumé help, or volunteer as a job coach.

### 10. Educate Yourself on Homelessness

Read the “State of Homelessness” from the [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) to understand the challenges people face and how you can help.

### 11. Advocate for Affordable Housing

Attend community meetings, write letters to local officials, or sign petitions to support policies that increase affordable housing and expand resources for those at risk.